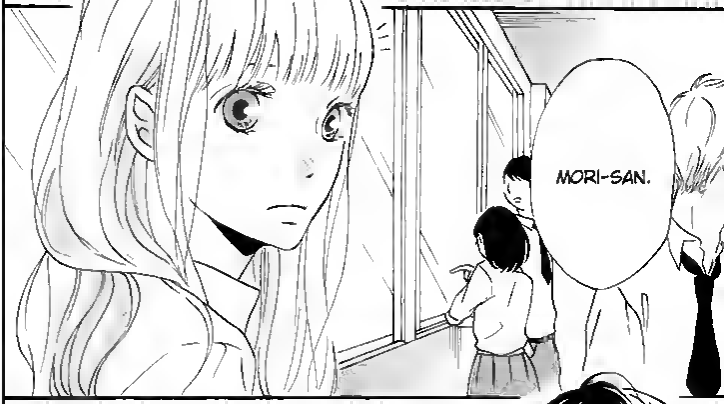
AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE!
30P
Shireba Shiruhodo: The More I Know, The More I...
when you come closer,
some things change...
ARAI HARUNA

Everyone has someone or somewhere that feels just right, don't they?



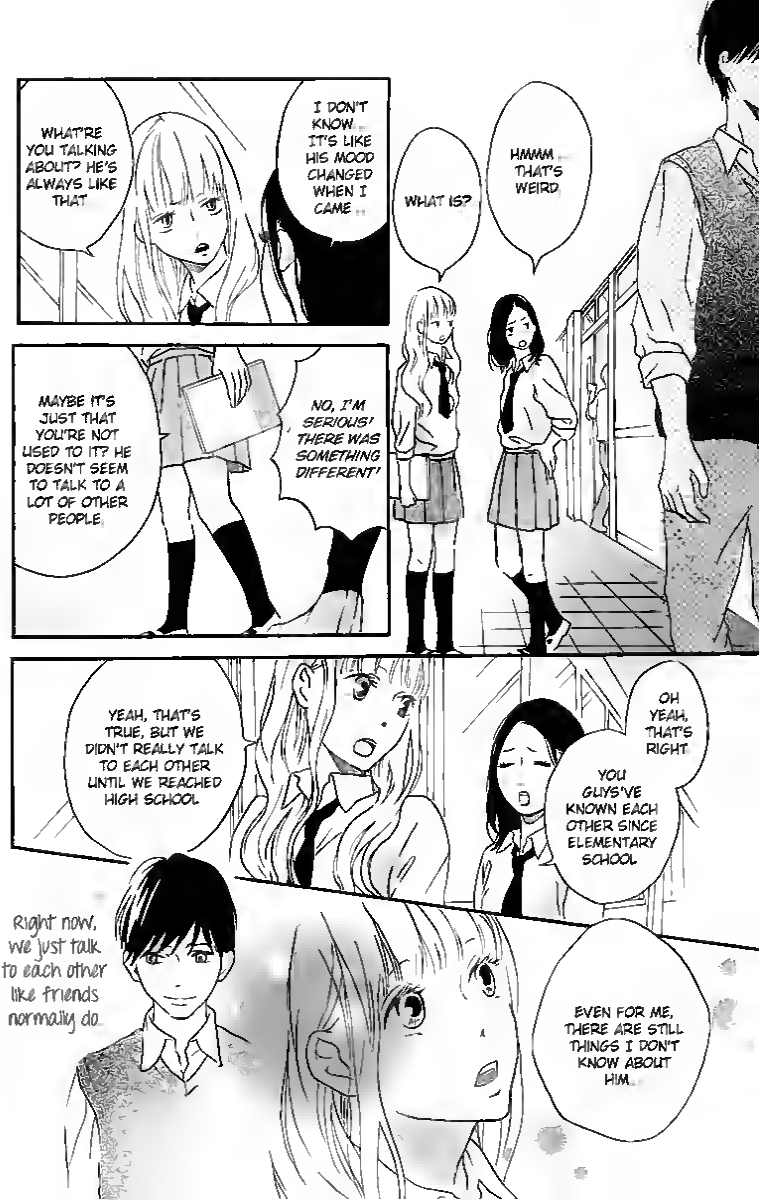
For example...

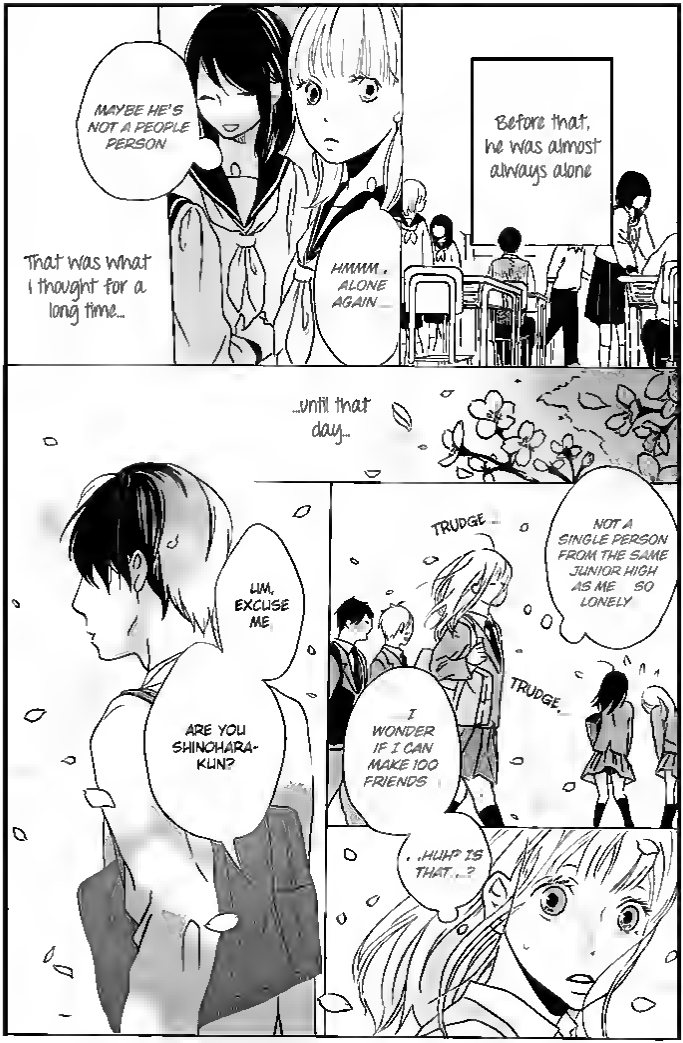
...maybe someone you can think about for purely who they are, untainted by any romantic feelings...

SHINO-HARA-KUN!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. IT WAS NO PROBLEM AT ALL
YEAH, BUT TODAY I WAS CALLED OUT BY THE TEACHER TO ANSWER A QUESTION, SO IT WAS A GREAT HELP.
WAIT A SECOND
HOLD OUT YOUR HAND.
MY HAND?
drop
HERE, AS A THANKS
Ooh, I got 3!
Little Candy Girl
FOR ME?! THANK YOU!
WOW, THIS REALLY REMINDS ME OF AN OLD MAN I KNEW. HE WOULD ALWAYS GIVE ME CANDY WHENEVER I DID SOMETHING GOOD.
An old man, eh

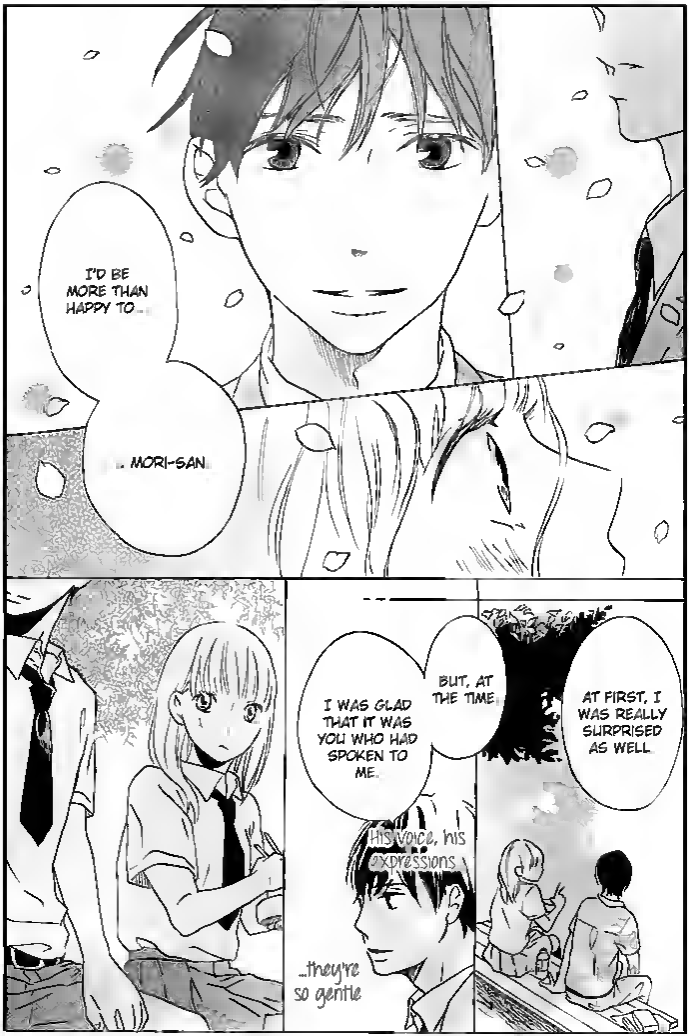
...Shinohara-kun.
Do I look that old?
For me, it's this guy that feels just right. He's like my cosy niche...
WHACK
Eh?
Jeez! Maybe not your appearance but...
HEH HEH HEH...
YOU TWO GET ALONG RATHER WELL...
SERIOUSLY, CUT IT OUT! I TOLD YOU TO STOP IT ALREADY!
Right, Shinohara? RIGHT?
SHOCK
WE'RE JUST FRIENDS! JUST. FRIENDS.
Your face LOL
WHIRL
UH YEAH...
...ARE YOU GUYS GOING OUT?
!!

SQUISH
ARE YOU FOR REAL?
FOR REAL. SERIOUSLY.
FORGIVE ME
I WAS JUST TEASING. I APOLOGISE.
Um... you don't have to be so formal about it!
UM... WHAT DO I..
YOU NEED TO STOP YOUR NONSENSE, OKAY?
BOWS
.....
I GUESS
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO APPEAR LIKE WE'RE JUST FRIENDS, THEN.
OH OKAY.
ALRIGHT, WELL, I HAVE TO GET READY FOR THE NEXT CLASS.
SEE YOU LATER, MORI-SAN.

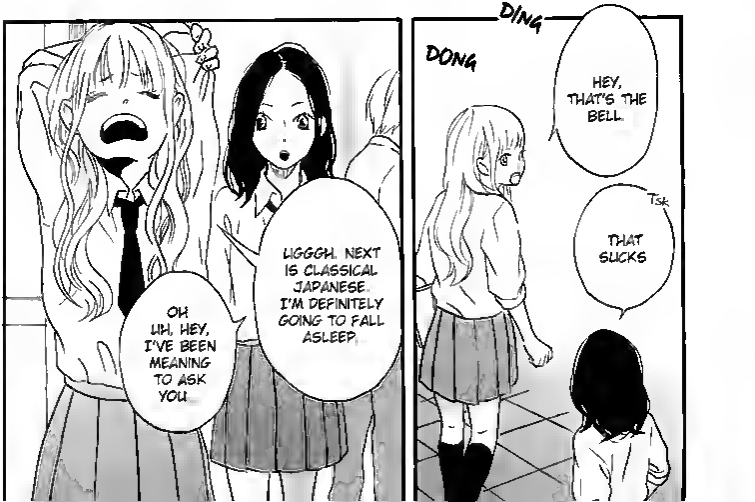

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? HE'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT.
I DON'T KNOW... IT'S LIKE HIS MOOD CHANGED WHEN I CAME...
WHAT IS?
HMMM... THAT'S WEIRD.
MAYBE IT'S JUST THAT YOU'RE NOT USED TO IT? HE DOESN'T SEEM TO TALK TO A LOT OF OTHER PEOPLE.
NO, I'M SERIOUS! THERE WAS SOMETHING DIFFERENT!
YEAH, THAT'S TRUE, BUT WE DIDN'T REALLY TALK TO EACH OTHER UNTIL WE REACHED HIGH SCHOOL.
OH YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU GUYS'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER SINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
Right now, we just talk to each other like friends normally do.
EVEN FOR ME, THERE ARE STILL THINGS I DON'T KNOW ABOUT HIM...


That was what I thought for a long time...
MAYBE HE'S NOT A PEOPLE PERSON
HMMM. ALONE AGAIN...
Before that, he was almost always alone
...until that day...
NOT A SINGLE PERSON FROM THE SAME JUNIOR HIGH AS ME SO LONELY
TRUDGE...
TRUDGE...
I WONDER IF I CAN MAKE 100 FRIENDS
. .HUH? IS THAT...?
UM, EXCUSE ME
ARE YOU SHINOHARA-KUN?

Oh no. That was bad.
No, wait! No no no no no no no no! Wait!
This is a chance!
GASP
WOW! I'M SURE GLAD TO SEE SOMONE THAT I KNOW! AND IT'S SOMEONE WHO KNOWS ME-
Because I was so anxious, I spoke aloud without thinking.
UM, I KNOW THAT WE HAVEN'T REALLY SPOKEN TO EACH OTHER UNTIL NOW, BUT.
WE'RE THE ONLY ONES HERE WHO ATTENDED THE SAME JUNIOR HIGH
IT WAS PROBABLY FATE THAT LEAD THIS TO HAPPEN.
SO LET'S BECOME EACH OTHER'S FIRST HIGH SCHOOL FRIEND!

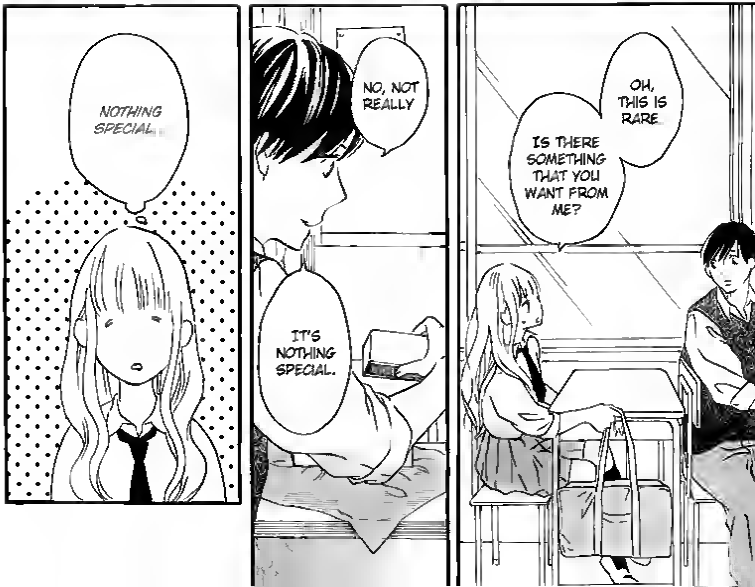

I'D BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO...
...MORI-SAN.
AT FIRST, I WAS REALLY SURPRISED AS WELL.
BUT, AT THE TIME,
I WAS GLAD THAT IT WAS YOU WHO HAD SPOKEN TO ME.
His voice, his expressions
...they're so gentle

I'm just lucky I have the honor to be in this position.
Even now, Shinohara-kun's usually alone, but,
it's just that he prefers to keep to himself

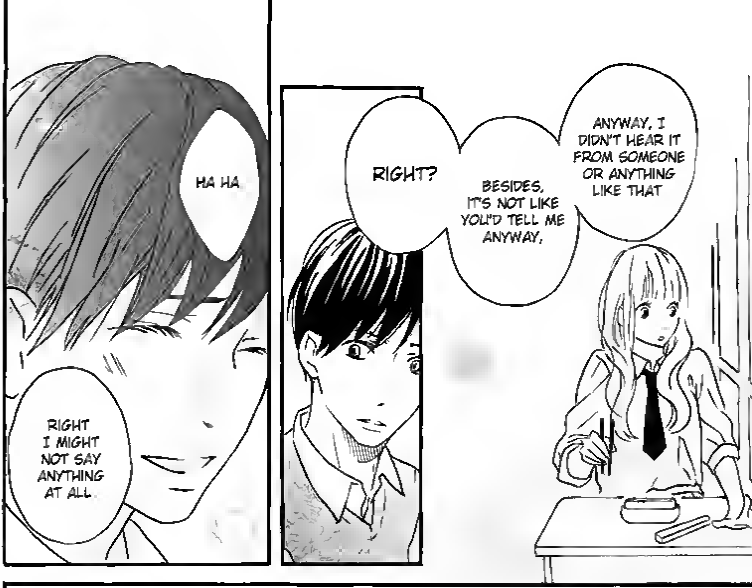

UGGGH. NEXT IS CLASSICAL JAPANESE. I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO FALL ASLEEP.
OH UH, HEY, I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU
DING
DONG
HEY, THAT'S THE BELL.
Tsk.
THAT SUCKS

...WOULD YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHETHER OR NOT SHINOHARA-KUN'S INTERESTED IN ANYONE?
DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT?
Hmmm..
MORI-SAN!
OPEN
n-san

Oh my gosh. I slept in class!
YES!
JUMP
YOU FINALLY WOKE UP. IT'S LUNCHTIME.
I BROUGHT LUNCH
I THOUGHT WE COULD EAT TOGETHER...

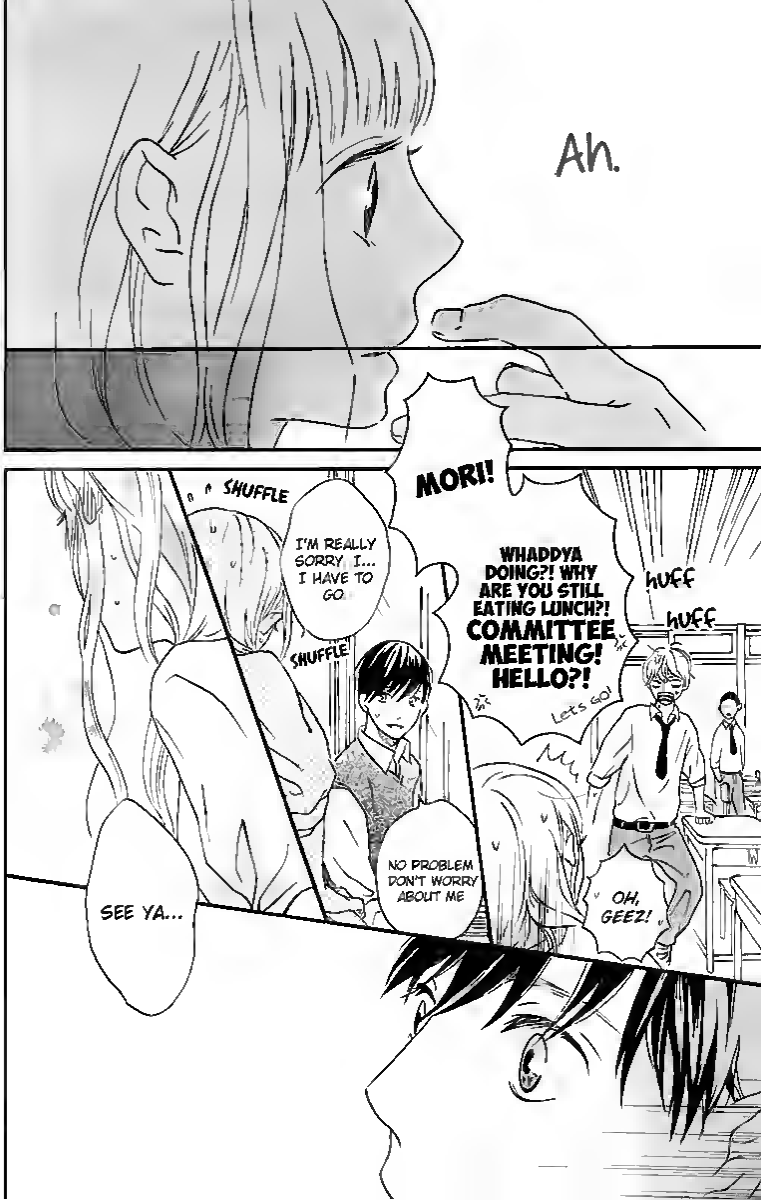

OH, THIS IS RARE.
IS THERE SOMETHING THAT YOU WANT FROM ME?
NO, NOT REALLY
IT'S NOTHING SPECIAL.
NOTHING SPECIAL...

It's totally me you!
If he's interested in someone I'm so sure it's you!
Ha, you see?
I'M A "NOTHING SPECIAL" KIND OF A GIRL..
Too bad for you but we're just friends!
cough
HUH? UM, WHO DID YOU HEAR...
SO, SHINO-HARA,
I WAS JUST WONDER-ING IF YOU'VE GOT SOMEONE YOU'RE INTER-ESTED...
STARTLED
.....
.....
...NO,
He's never flustered!
WHOA! WHAT A REAC-TION!
WELL,
ABOUT THAT...


HA HA
RIGHT I MIGHT NOT SAY ANYTHING AT ALL
RIGHT?
BESIDES, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'D TELL ME ANYWAY,
ANYWAY, I DIDN'T HEAR IT FROM SOMEONE OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT

this little bit of restraint feels just right. It's comfortable
We don't really have a lot of things to talk to each other about, but...
Just like I thought. This is the perfect distance between us.

.....
I MIGHT AS WELL HAVE SAID, "HEY AM I THE PERSON THAT YOU RE INTERESTED IN?" OH GOD
OH NO IT'S LIKE I BECAME THAT "AWKWARD PERSON" SINCE I ASKED
MORI-SAN.
HM ..?
YOU'VE GOT HAIR IN YOUR MOUTH.


Ah.
MORI!
SHUFFLE
I'M REALLY SORRY I... I HAVE TO GO.
SHUFFLE
WHADDYA DOING?! WHY ARE YOU STILL EATING LUNCH?! COMMITTEE MEETING! HELLO?!
HUFF
HUFF
Let's go!
NO PROBLEM DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME
OH, GEEZ!
SEE YA...

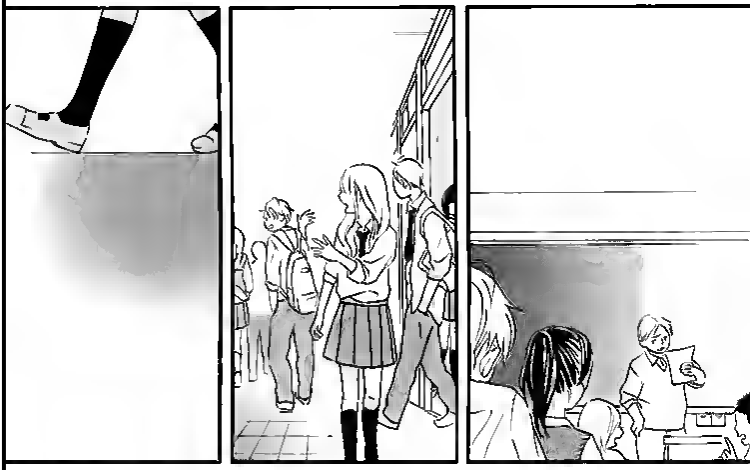
PULL
S-SORRY
step
step

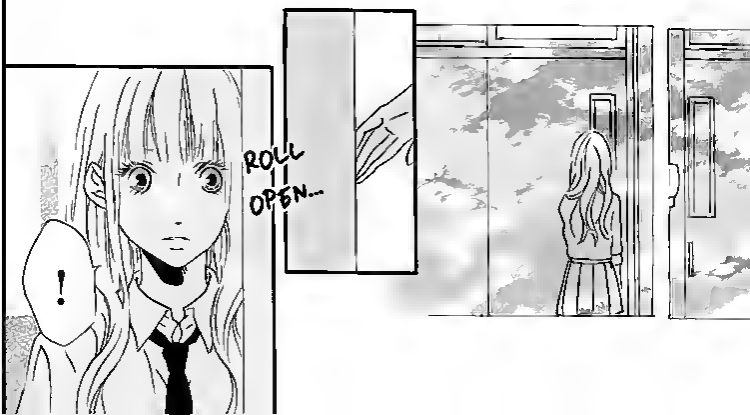
I was so surprised...
DON'T THINK ABOUT IT TOO MUCH.
IT'S ALMOST AS IF I'M...
I'M SO TIRED...
yawn
URGH, I'M STARVING. HEY, DON'T FORGET ABOUT AFTER SCHOOL AS WELL!
I GOT IT ALREADY!
SO THE COMMITTEE MEETING'S CONTINUING AFTER SCHOOL?
FLINCH

DON'T OVERWORK YOURSELF.
Oh no!
UH-HUH
I have to act like I normally do.
IT KIND OF SUCKS MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE OF ME?
HA HA HA...
.....
Like I normally do..
.....
...but I can't...
UM. WOW I STILL HAVE SOME LUNCH LEFT OVER, SO...
SORRY...

Was it changed?

...Did it change?





THAT'S MY SEAT.
BUT, WHY?
Just for one moment, a thought swept through me.
.....
Once something has been changed, it's hard to change it back to what it was.

You'll only give yourself grief and regret...
...If you choose to remain standing still. In order to move forward...
...let yourself be touched. Take a step...

WHAT... WHAT WAS THAT?
...and you'll come to understand something. At least, that was what I felt.

YOU'RE WRONG... I JUST WOKE UP
...WERE YOU...
...PRETENDING TO BE ASLEEP?
.....
tick
tock
tick
tock
BUT...
.....
I THOUGHT...
...THAT IF I KISSED YOU, I MIGHT UNDERSTAND SOMETHING, BUT...

MORI-SAN.
DID YOU NOTICE, EVEN FOR A MOMENT,
THAT THE PERSON THAT I'M INTERESTED IN, IS YOU?
WHA...?!
Blush
I KNOW...
...THAT YOU'VE ONLY CONSIDERED ME AS A FRIEND. I KNOW THAT.
He's just a friend!
Rea-lly?
THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN DECEIVING MYSELF ABOUT MY OWN FEELINGS.
BUT, THE TRUTH IS,
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN ATTRACTED TO YOUR HONESTY AND STRAIGHT-FORWARD-NESS...

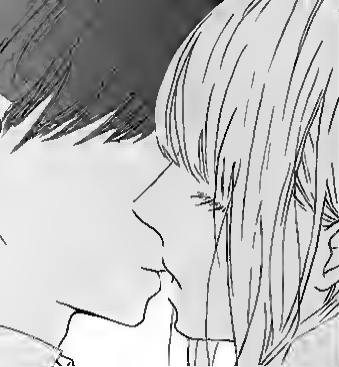
Shino-
hara's
body
BUT I CAN'T CONTINUE LYING TO MYSELF FOR ANY LONGER.
...feels
not...
I THOUGHT I'D TELL YOU...
...THAT I UNDERSTAND IT CLEARLY.

I UNDER-STAND NOW, JUST HOW MUCH...
...YOU'VE TOUCHED ME.
We were separated by a moment...
...and from one shaky touch
what is this?
what is this?
what is this?

I must be...
I feel hotter than I did a moment ago.

...I THINK I'M GOING TO DIE FROM EMBAR-RASSMENT.
I-I'M... ...IF WE'RE NOW...
This was something I hadn't realised until now...
HA HA HA.
Something I wouldn't have ever realised by myself.
IT'D BE A SHAME IF YOU DID...

Just how much you've touched me, and how much I've been touched by you.
...ESPECIALLY AFTER YOU'VE FINALLY NOTICED YOUR OWN FEELINGS.
END



Shireba Shiruhodo

Credits

Raws: Public
Translator: Anabanana
Proofreader: Priminty
Cleaner: Joey
Typesetter: Priminty
QCer: Joey

We, at mysticalrs.info, are recruiting.
If interested, email us at mysticalrsforever@gmail.com.